

# The Evening World.

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## WIDE-OPEN DIPLOMACY.

PRESIDENT O'BREYON'S telegram to The World yesterday was an unusual utterance from the Chief Executive of a nation.

It is this an example of "Open Diplomacy," by all means let us have more of it. The statement was frank, straightforward, unequivocal and generally satisfactory. It was the next thing to an official proclamation. Before the world it binds O'Breyon. Failing a disavowal by the Mexican legislators, the moral sense of the world would hold it to bind O'Breyon's successor.

David Lawrence, writing from Washington, observes that this Government is gratified by the statement, but hopes for the same assurances in treaty form.

But is more formal statement worth a continuance of the disagreement? The fact is that not even a formal treaty is revolution-proof. Why not accept the word of the Mexican President as he gave it to the people of America through The World? Why not give a new Mexican Government the benefit of the doubt without insisting on a humiliating treaty?

If Mexico ever attempts the confiscation which our State Department professes to fear, that act would be ample ground for a withdrawal of recognition. Our Mexican relations would be no worse than they are now. And in the event of the faithful performance of O'Breyon's informal pledge, our relations would certainly be better.

## THE REASON.

By a vote of 250 to 93 the House passed the Wilson-Campbell Anti-Beer Bill. Quick action on the measure is expected from the Senate.

A month from now the medical profession of the United States will be uttering amazed protest against this insult to its dignity and handicap to its work.

We shall hear more loud scounders how such things can happen in this so-called enlightened and progressive Republic.

The reason they happen is that the protest and the wonder wait till after they happen.

## THE BEST YET TO COME.

"I NEVER knew of such a boom before," an experienced home-builder in the Bronx remarked yesterday.

New building in the Bronx this year will care for approximately the normal increase in the population of the city. Building in other boroughs will also be reducing the housing shortage.

The tide in building has turned. The supply of homes is on the way toward overtaking the demand.

For this we have to thank the tax-exemption ordinance for which Borough President Curran and The Evening World contended. Even the opponents of tax exemption admit that it has been a wonderful stimulant of building and promises to force rent reductions in the near future.

Building is booming now. But the real boom is to come. It is due in the early days of next year. As the advantage to the builder from tax exemption becomes better known, we shall see a rush to get buildings started before the ordinance expires next spring.

March, 1922, is due to be a banner time for excavators and foundation-builders.

That boxing exhibition to be held in Jersey City next Saturday has proved a godsend to reformers whose zeal has grown dull for lack of something big to sharpen it on.

## SAY IT WITH GREENBACKS.

SOME of Chicago's business men have invented a new business slogan, "The dolls must go." And go they will—to just the extent that the Chicagoans mean what they say.

Undoubtedly there is a minority of the Fluffy-Ruffles type of girl who is misplaced in business. But a big majority of young business women are shrewd and clever and anxious to succeed. If they are "dolls," it is because they have reason to believe that the employer prefers the "doll" and pays better wages to the girl who is "easy to look at."

If the Chicago business men mean what they say, they can say it with greenbacks far more distinctly than with a slogan.

If the employer believes that the trimly tailored and sedate business girl is worth more to his business, let him prove it in the pay envelope. The girls will soon catch the point.

## DE-BRINDELLIZING.

BRINDELLISM in New York got a hard jolt in last Saturday's elections in the United Brotherhood of Builders and Carpenters and Joiners.

This was the union in which Brindell held office as a delegate. Two men were elected in his place, one known to be definitely opposed to Brindellism.

Other unions have been holding elections. More will elect in the near future. Brindell men have lost many places in the Building Trades Council. Sooner or later the anti-Brindellites are bound to have a majority in the organization. That will be

a good day for the unions; for square-dealing employers and for the public.

Some have criticised the unions because they have not moved more quickly in repudiating Brindell and Brindellism. This would have been impossible. Unions are governed by hard and fast rules written into constitutions and charters. Terms of officers and representatives expire at different times. There is no opportunity for an uprising, a mass decision. The anti-Brindell forces have to win a victory here and another there until the cumulative effect will place enough men in power to deprive Brindellism of its force.

This is different from the informal "gentlemen's agreement" organization which controlled the other side of the building business. They could be dissolved over night.

All the public can reasonably expect is that the unions will clean house as rapidly as is possible. Here and there a few Brindell followers have managed to hold place. Criticism of those unions is proper.

But credit is due when the swing is the other way. Of this credit the carpenters deserve their share.

## A LADIFIED LEAGUE.

IN this week's issue of the Outlook, Robert Lansing, former Secretary of State, suggests a way for the United States to ratify the Versailles Treaty and at the same time assure the continuance of the League of Nations under a covenant so modified as to overcome objections.

Mr. Lansing would begin by separating the covenant of the League of Nations from the peace terms. Then, treating the covenant as a distinct and independent proposition, he would radically change it "so that the League of Nations would possess only a single representative body which has no executive, legislative or judicial functions." Mr. Lansing's so-called League would confine itself to "an exchange of information and opinions on subjects of international interest and concern," discussion of ways and means of removing causes of war and "recommendations as to bases of conciliation and of adjustment of differences."

In short, Mr. Lansing, by taking coercive force out of the League, would remould it nearer to the "round table" or "association of nations," which is vaguely understood to be President Harding's heart's desire.

This flabby notion of a League, of course, makes even clearer the reasons why President Wilson and his one-time Secretary of State were at cross purposes in Paris.

But we need not go to Democratic sources for rejection of a spineless, toothless international peace club such as Mr. Lansing suggests. Some highly eminent Republicans have had their say about it. William H. Taft, for instance:

"Senator Knox criticizes the League because it recognizes the possibility of war and proposes to use war to end war. Certainly there is no means of suppressing lawless violence but by lawful force, and any League which makes no provision for that method and does not recognize its validity would be futile."

Listen to Herbert Hoover, President Harding's Secretary of Commerce (the italics are ours):

"Unless these countries have a guiding hand and referee in their quarrels, a court of appeals for their wrongs, this Europe will go back to chaos. If there is such an institution, representing the public opinion of the world and able to exert its authority, they will grow into stability. We cannot turn back now."

Hear Theodore Roosevelt himself:

"The one effective move for obtaining peace is by an agreement among all the great powers in which each should pledge itself not only to abide by the decisions of a common tribunal but to back its decisions by force."

A sewing circle of nations has never appealed to senevy minded Republicans as an adequate safeguard for the peace of the world.

We doubt if even President Harding will hail Mr. Lansing's ladified league as the realization of his "round table."

Director of the Budget Dawes has called a mass meeting of Government officials for tomorrow.

You can bring chronic spenders to a budget, but can you make 'em budge?

## TWICE OVERS.

"WE should join with Great Britain and Japan in reducing armaments. In this way we can accomplish real economy."—Vice President Coolidge.

"GIVEN a sound constitution and a clean record there is no reason why a man or woman should not reach 150 years."—Dr. A. H. Warner.

"I DON'T do the waltz. It's too tiring. I like the fox-trot and the toddle and those other dances."—Banker Brown of Cambridge, Mass., 76 years of age.

"THE job of Mayor of New York is second in importance only to the Presidency, but I don't want it."—Col. Bill Hayward.

# Playing Hookey!

By John Cassel



## From Evening World Readers

What kind of a letter do you find most readable? Isn't it the one that gives you the mental exercise and a lot of satisfaction in trying to say much in a few words. Take time to be brief.

### "Will Doctors Submit?"

To the Editor of The Evening World:  
I appreciated very keenly your editorial last evening "Will Doctors Submit," and the cartoon by John Cassel on the same page. It is time indeed that some one called a halt to these politicians in Washington, and you are to be commended for the stand you have taken. If the people could only have the press champion their cause a little more perhaps such dangerous legislation as the Eighteenth Amendment and the Volstead Act would not be forced upon us.

WILLIAM C. FISHER.  
June 25, 1921.

### Ponzi Frappe.

To the Editor of The Evening World:  
The expose by Mr. P. Q. Foy of profiteering in ice cream will be hailed with delight by the thousands who from choice (or necessity) are patronizing the many and varied ice cream parlors.

Since The Evening World does not speak without "its book," I have a feeling that those few (?) confectioners from whom Mr. Foy obtained his exhibit "A" will not welcome his advertising. Neither will they be pleased if the City of New York's Health Commissioner demands not only frequent inspection of the ingredients used in the making of ice cream but also an inspection of those who handle these ingredients.

There are, of course, manufacturers of the product who, like Phoebe Snow, are spotless, and why they don't capitalize their cleanliness and purity of flavorings, fruits, etc., is a sort of wonderment to me.

There is no copyright on the suggestion for a new drink, "Ponzi Frappe," 500 per cent. profit.

Ye gods, and we tell the kids not to emulate the example of Jesse James.

H. C. BEBIG.  
New York City, June 20, 1921.

### Open the Pier.

To the Editor of The Evening World:  
A great many people who live in the vicinity and use the recreation pier at 124th Street and Hudson River are inquiring why the upper part of the pier is closed to the public. I, for one, living in that vicinity and using the pier, ask the same.

The lower part of this pier at the river end is closed to the public. About 70 per cent. of the enclosed space is used by the Hudson River Day Line, and the balance by the Iron Steamboat Company.

The only way a person can get to the end of this pier, where there is some air, is to buy a ticket on the Hudson River Day Line. Then they are at liberty to use the end of same and sit on a bench. Otherwise, if they wish to sit down they must use the hard floor along the edge of the pier.

People with children who use this pier must either stand up or sit down along the edge and tie a rope to the children or run the chance of their falling in the water, as there is no railing. If the upper part of this recreation pier, which was built by the city for the use of the public, is going to remain closed, why not make it more convenient for the Hudson River

Day Line by the city spending some money and extending the upper part out in line with the lower part? The company would then be able to unload its boats from the top decks as well as the lower deck, and this would save a little time.

I see no reason why the upper part of this pier should not be open on or about June 1 of each year.

SAMUEL B. BRILHART.  
New York, June 23, 1921.

### "Cramming."

To the Editor of The Evening World:  
Three cheers for "A True American Student." She is absolutely correct. Being a student of the Stuyvesant High School, I have had the experience of the "Regents." Besides agreeing with her in every way, I wish to add something about cramming, a result of examinations. This detestable habit is practiced by pupils who do little studying during the term. The week or so preceding the examination is spent by cramming or filling their heads with matter which should have been carefully absorbed all term. The student, with this matter stuffed in his head, may pass the examinations with a higher rating than one who studied faithfully, yet a few weeks' time will show the "crammer" to be far inferior to the faithful worker. Every one will agree that this practice is extremely injurious to New York's youth. Eliminate examinations and you eliminate cramming.

In my opinion a student should be judged by his term's daily work and not upon the result of one nerve-racking examination. The object of the schools, in order to really benefit the pupil, should be to teach that which will assist you in years to come and not to prepare for "Regents" only.

### ANOTHER AMERICAN STUDENT.

#### Profiteering Prices.

To the Editor of The Evening World:  
Bully for you, Mr. Editor, and the best wishes to Mr. P. Q. Foy. Also many thanks to every one else responsible for the publishing of the timely article under the heading, "Ice Cream Consumers Here Pay 500 to 1,000 Per Cent. Above Cost of Ingredients." It was, indeed, very fine of you to publish this splendid article.

By such fearless publicity alone can those heartless profiteers be brought to a realization of the exorbitant burdens they have been placing on the consumers. They are acting like highwaymen do when they deliberately held up a person and steal money right out of the pockets of the victim.

Now is the time, when the hottest weather is with us, to bring these ruthless profiteers to terms. Come again and again with front-page items on the subject. One week's continuous war along those lines will burst the bubble and millions of men, women and children will be most grateful for your great service to them.

To aid you in your fight to bring down the price of ice cream and soda, I might be a very good thing to invite the people of our great Empire City to observe a Water Week, similar to the recent Milk Week. This stunt

## UNCOMMON SENSE

By John Blake

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### LET'S NOT DESPAIR OF THE RACE

Taken generally, this world is about what may be expected of it, considering the sort of people who are in it.

Mourning for the dead, dead days of long ago has a sentimental value, but otherwise is pretty useless.

Man was not born to become perfect in a hurry. He isn't perfect now, even after some millions of years of opportunity for development.

But he is more nearly perfect than he was two thousand years ago, or for that matter, a hundred years ago. In other words, he's progressing.

He isn't warproof yet. He hasn't found any means of settling his biggest quarrels except by taking up arms.

But he doesn't burn witches any longer, and he accords his fellows more right to their opinions than he used to.

Incidentally, his morals are better than they were in the time of Rome, and he has done considerable to add to his comforts and to his education.

Recently all the civilized nations of the world got together to end a military despotism that, had it existed two hundred years ago, would probably have conquered and enslaved the world.

We have better means of understanding each other than we used to. We know what is going on in Sydney and Nome and Tokio, and can go to the movies and see pictures of elephants a-pilin' teak in India. All this makes for education, and, as Mr. H. G. Wells tells us, education eventually means perfect civilization.

It may not be the best of all possible worlds, but it is the best world that people now living have experienced. And we think it is getting better.

Anyway, just because women wear short skirts and crowds go to prize fights, let's not despair. We're improving, slowly but surely, and by and by we can work out our own salvation. And a time like this, when there is more going on than there ever has been before, is surely a good time in which to be living.

would undoubtedly please the "prohibitionists," who are more to blame for the unjustly high prices of ice cream, soda and candies, fruits, berries, molasses, etc., than any other element we have with us at present.

Every steamer sailing for Europe these days is carrying profiteers to lands where they can enjoy wines, beer and liquors to their hearts' content, buying these with the money they have and are still raking out of the pockets of a victimized, prohibition-saddled American public.

EDWIN F. LINDER.  
Glendale, L. I.

**Profiteering on City Property.**  
To the Editor of The Evening World:  
I have noticed lately about the profiteering in ice cream, soda water and orangeade.

It would be worth while for you to take a trip over to Staten Island to see the way they rob the poor people on city property, selling a small, thick glass of buttermilk at 10 cents, orangeade with ice in it for 10 cents, glass of soda which is not worth more

## Ten-Minute Studies of New York City Government

By Willis Brooks Hawkins.

This is the seventy-seventh article of a series defining the duties of the administrative and legislative officers and boards of the New York City Government.

### ART COMMISSION.

This commission consists of the Mayor, the Presidents of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York Public Library, Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences (or trustees appointed as their representatives) and six members appointed by the Mayor at the nomination of the Fine Arts Federation, one of whom must be an architect, one a painter, one a sculptor and three must be laymen. All serve without salary.

The Art Commission must approve all paintings, mural decorations, stained glass, statues, sculptures, monuments, fountains, arches or other structures of a permanent character before the city can acquire them either by purchase or by gift.

The commission also has jurisdiction over the plans and location of buildings, bridges, approaches, gates, fences, lamps or other structure erected by the city upon city land, except that where the cost of such structure does not exceed \$250,000 the approval of the Art Commission is not required if the Mayor or the Board of Aldermen requests the commission not to act.

No existing work of art may be removed, relocated or altered without the commission's consent. The lines, grades and plotting of public ways and grounds come within the jurisdiction of the Art Commission.

The personnel of the present Art Commission is as follows: Robert W. De Forest, (President, Metropolitan Museum of Art), President ex officio; Frank L. Babbitt (President Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences), Vice President ex officio; Lucius Oudin (Mayor), Secretary; John F. Hyman (Mayor), ex officio; William Barclay Parsons (trustee New York Public Library), ex officio; Edward C. Blum (Mayor), R. T. H. Halsey (Mayor), Welles Rosworth (architect), Harry W. Watrous (painter) and Charles Keck (sculptor).

The commission meets at City Hall on the second Monday of every month. Its office in City Hall is open daily except Sunday.

### THE CAMBRIDGE "PAVEMENT CLUB."

(From The Living Age.)

With the laudable purpose of lending "verisimilitude to the rapidly disappearing illusion that university life is a life of leisure," undergraduates at Cambridge University (England), have organized the "Pavement Club." The club meets at noon every Saturday, if the weather is fair, upon any centrally situated pavement, where the members sit in quiet conversation, perhaps reading newspapers aloud, playing marbles, doing a little knitting or whiling away the hours by similar expedients which present themselves readily enough to the fertile undergraduate brain.

So great was the rush to join the first meeting of the club, held on King's Parade, Cambridge, that the "premises" of the club had to be extended from the pavement to the road, and traffic diverted to another street. In the midst of the organization, the chief disciplinary officer of the university, appeared on the scene. No whit abashed, the members of the club returned to their seats on the pavement and, being still in need of a chief executive, elected the amazed official as their President.

## WHERE DID YOU GET THAT WORD?

### 42—IRRIGATION.

Irrigation has done wonders in the long process of making the world a better place to live in and grow in. The word deserves consideration and respect. It is derived from the Latin "irrigo"—to moisten. That word, in its turn, is derived from the Latin "in"—on, upon—and "rigo," to moisten. As "irrigo" was an awkward combination to pronounce, the word, by a process well known to philologists, became "irrigation."

Irrigation, in the sense in which it is most frequently used in Congress, means letting water into desert regions, in order to make them productive.

Nature has made elaborate provisions for irrigation, but some neglected spots, various regions like the desert of Sahara, are a waste because of the failure of nature to do her duty. Irrigation is a process of helping out nature to do what she has done by her apparent neglect.

## From the Wise

A comedy is like a cigar; if good, every one wants a box; if bad, no amount of puffing will make it drive.—H. J. Byron.

I never knew a man who was good at making excuses, good at anything else.—Franklin.

Hope is like the sun, which, as we journey toward it, casts the shadow of our burdens behind us.—S. Smiles.

A better principle than this, that "The majority shall rule," is this other, that justice shall rule.—Dove.

Youth will never live to age unless they keep themselves in breath with exercise, and in heart with mirth.—Sir P. Sidney.

As birds are made to fly and rivers to run, so the soul to follow duty.—Ramayana.

If the advice of a fool for once happens to be good it requires a wise man to carry it out.—Lessing.